OCKET NO.: P99-16

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:

Inventor:

Robert C. Newman, Jr. et al.

Serial No.:

09/887,848

Filed:

June 22, 2001

Title:

ELECTRONIC BALLAST

Art Unit:

2821

Examiner:

Lee, Wilson

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this paper, along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date indicated below, with sufficient postage, as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Rita M. Shovlin

(Typed or printed name of person mailing paper or fee.)

(Signature of person mailing paper or fee.)

April 29, 2003

April 29, 2003

Commissioner for Patents

D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT

Responsive to the Official Action dated December 4, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows. The original period for response ended March 4, 2003. Thus, with the appropriate Request for Extension of Time for Two Months, and payment of the appropriate fee for that extension submitted herewith, this response is timely filed.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows. Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made."

Replace claim 1 with:

1. An electronic ballast for driving a gas discharge lamp, the ballast drawing an essentially sinusoidal AC input current from an AC power supply, the ballast comprising: